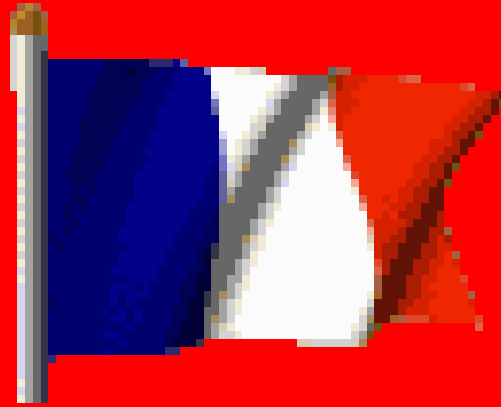


TRAVELER'S BRIEFING



FRANCE

REPUBLIQUE FRANCAISE)



BACKGROUND

Full Name: French Republic

Capital: Paris

Population: 58,987,172 (est)

Type of government: Republic

Head of government: PM Lionel Jospin

Official language(s) French

Economy: Socialist-Capitalist

Religions: Catholic (90%)

TRAVEL

Travel restrictions: None

INFORMATION

International Airport: Paris- Charles De Gaulle and Orly

Flights from Frankfurt: Lufthansa, Air France

Other methods of arrival: Road/Rail

U.S. Embassy address: 2 avenue Gabriel, Paris

**Tel: 33-1-4312-2222/2786 FAX: 33-1-4742-9193 E-mail
usdaoparis@compuserve.com**

Transportation: Public transportation: Excellent.

Urban Roads/Maintenance: Good.

Rural roads/Maintenance: Excellent.

Availability of roadside assistance:Excellent. Roads in France are generally comparable to those in the United States, but traffic engineering and driving habits pose special dangers. One particularity of the French traffic code is that of the

ENTRY/EXIT

Travel Necessities: If visit concerns military operations, operational training, personnel or intelligence matters, or ceremonies, request clearance. If visit concerns research and development, Data Exchange Agreements, Arms

Cooperation, Arms Procurement and Sales (both FMS and commercial), or formal and technical training, request clearance. Personnel traveling to France solely to attend French-hosted multilateral meetings of NATO committees or NATO-designated working groups should submit their clearance requests directly to the French host with the appropriate Amembassy office as an info addressee. Official travelers will not enter France without positive clearance. Active duty military personnel assigned to the EUCOM theater traveling to France on leave require a copy of leave orders and a valid military ID card. Military personnel not stationed in Customs, immigration, and quarantine inspection is

Duty-free entry for used personal effects used clothing, two cameras (still or movie) and 10 rolls of film, jewelry (limit 1.1 lb), portable typewriter, phonograph and 20 records, sporting

HELPFUL HINTS

Special restrictions: US citizens who are considered to have also acquired French citizenship may be subject to compulsory military service and other aspects of French law while in France. Those who might be affected can inquire at a French embassy or consulate regarding their status. In some instances, dual nationality may hamper US Government efforts to provide protection abroad. Drivers in France tend to exceed the posted speed limits. On the major highways, service stations are situated every 25 miles or less. Service stations are as plentiful on secondary roads as in the United States.



**Amembassy operating hours are 0900-1800L Mon-Fri.
Amembassy observes US and local holidays.**

MONEY

Currency restrictions: Declare all currency. There is no limit on import or export of foreign currency or travelers checks. Exchange currency at authorized banks, agencies, or hotels.

Rate: Approximate: 5 French francs for \$1.



HEALTH

Major threats: diarrhea, respiratory diseases, accidents, arthropod-borne diseases, STDs, cold injuries, and industrial pollution.

Availability of medical services: Good. Medical facilities are excellent, but may be limited in rural areas.

Medical Insurance: May not apply in France. Check with your policy advisor to see if you are covered or will be reimbursed.

Status of hospitals: Good.

Health Precautions: Personnel on TDY, leave, or in transit who are sensitive to immunizing agents may enter with doctor's certificate stating reason for non-immunization. Surveillance procedures may be used if arriving from infected area within incubation period. The period of surveillance will be in

Immunizations: Hep A (recommended), Hep B, typhoid, influenza, and TD. Yellow fever vaccination required of all travelers arriving from an infected area.

FORCE PROTECTION

Country Clearance: Required for all general officers traveling to France. You obtain this by going through your S3/G3 section. This must be done at least 30 days ahead of scheduled visit. DV visits will also be coordinated through

Briefings: AT/FP level I brief from command's Level II trainer

Violent civil disorder is relatively rare in France. However, at times, student demonstrations, labor protests or other routine demonstrations deteriorate into violent confrontations between demonstrators and police. For this reason, Americans are advised to avoid street demonstrations. In recent years, France has been the scene of closely targeted political assassinations and random bombings. No U.S. citizens have been killed and only one has been injured. The bombings have resulted in an increased police presence at places where the public congregates. All passengers on subways and trains are urged to be aware of their surroundings and report any unattended packages to the nearest authority. The Basque Separatist Party (ETA) and the National Front for the

CRIME

Criminal Activities: France and Monaco both have relatively low rates of violent crime. But crimes involving larceny are common. Pickpocketing, theft of unattended baggage and theft from rental cars or vehicles with non-local license plates are daily occurrences. Criminals frequent tourist attractions such as museums, monuments, restaurants, hotels, beaches, trains, train stations, airports and subways. Americans in France and Monaco should be particularly alert to pickpockets in train stations and subways. In Paris, gangs of thieves operate on the rail link from Charles de Gaulle Airport to downtown Paris by preying on jet-lagged, luggage-burdened tourists. - The Number One Subway Line, which runs by many major tourist attractions is the site of many thefts. In Southern France, thefts from cars stopped at red lights are commonly reported. Similar incidents have also occurred at

France is strict on: Drugs. Penalties for possession, use, or trafficking in illegal drugs in France or Monaco are strict, and convicted offenders can expect jail sentences and heavy fines.

WEATHER



<http://cnn.com/WEATHER/html>

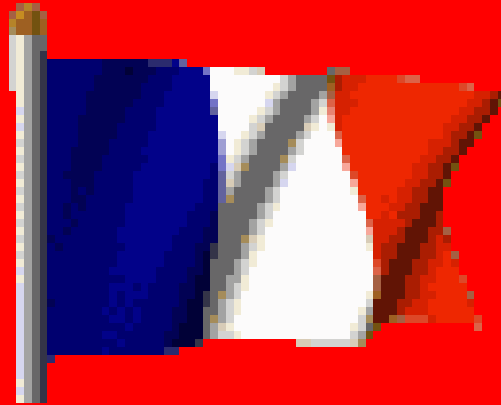
<Http://www.weatherunderground.com/>

CLOTHING

Uniform restrictions: Transient military personnel are advised to bring civilian clothing, particularly if visits to industrial or government organizations are contemplated. Wearing of civilian clothing is preferred and acceptable except for official functions or joint exercises. Service dress uniform will suffice for all except formal functions. Lightweight wool suits are recommended for summer. Jackets and lightweight coats are necessary with summer-type women's clothing. Winterweight clothing suitable to New England is recommended for winter. Rainwear is necessary.



**This concludes the
TRAVELER'S
BRIEFING for**



FRANCE